

REMARKS

Claims 1, 6-9, 14-17, 22-25, 27-33, 38, and 39 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 6,075,905 ("Herman"). Claims 2-5, 10-13, 18-21, 26, 34-37, and 40-43 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Herman in view of U.S. Patent 5,706,416 ("Mann"). Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections because these references do not disclose or suggest all the limitations of any pending claim, as the following analysis shows.

The Office action states that Herman does not teach the claimed purging of memory, and in 'Response to Arguments' on page 2, states that the purging of memory would be obvious because no sequence of events is claimed, and shutting down the computer at the end of the day would purge the memory. Independent claims 1, 9, 17, 25, 32, and 38, as amended, each recite that the purging of memory takes place in a particular sequence within the claimed events (after identifying and before dividing), which must by necessity take place during the claimed operations and not when the computer is later shut down. Support for this may be found in Fig. 3 and the related text of the specification. The cited references do not disclose or suggest this limitation.

The remaining pending claims depend from claims 1, 9, 17, 25, 32, and 38, and therefore also contain this limitation that is not disclosed or suggested by the references.

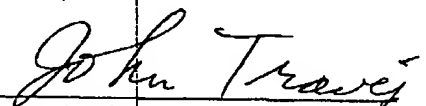
CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance, and indication of allowance by the Examiner is respectfully requested. If any fee insufficiency or overpayment is found, please charge any insufficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR &
ZAFMAN, L.L.P.

Date: 4-11-03


John Travis
Registration No. 43,203

12400 Wilshire Boulevard
Seventh Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90025-1030